

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are now present in this application.

The specification and claims 1 and 2 have been amended, and claims 5-10 have been presented. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that claim 2 should particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the instant invention. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by CHEN, U.S. Patent 5,102,598. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The patent to CHEN discloses a method of making a textured venetian blind. As discussed in column 1, lines 9-11, prior blinds have not been made with a sand or granite textured appearance and feel. Thus, an object of the CHEN patent is to make such slats for blinds. While the CHEN patent does disclose the use of Titanium Dioxide in the blinds, it does not disclose that this Titanium Dioxide will act as a photo catalyst coating on the surface of the slats. As set forth in independent claim 1 of the present application, the protective layer will receive projection of ultraviolet light source and will be agitated to release free

radicals to decompose and absorb organic substances in the air to eliminate toxic chemical substances in the air. As set forth in independent claim 5, the blinds include means in the slat for reacting with ultraviolet light to release free radicals which absorb organic substances in the air to eliminate toxic chemical substances in the air. Such means are not found in the CHEN patent. Merely because it happens to disclose four parts per weight of Titanium Dioxide, there is no teaching or suggestion that the Titanium Dioxide is arranged in such a manner whereby the photocatalyst features of the present invention are obtained. Specific features are disclosed in both independent claims 1 and 5, which are neither suggested nor rendered obvious by the prior art utilized by the Examiner. The dependent claims further define the instant invention from the prior art.

It is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 5, as well as their dependent claims, should all now be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

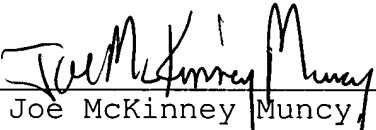
Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
Joe McKinney Muncy, #32,334

KM/asc
2450-0506P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000